

Application Serial No.: 10/663,334
Amdt. dated August 1, 2005
Reply to Office Action of May 13, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS-

The Office Action dated May 13, 2005 and the references cited therein have been carefully considered. In response to the Office Action, Applicants have canceled Claims 1-8, amended Claims 9-11 and added new Claims 15-30 which, when considered with the remarks set forth below, are deemed to place the case in condition for allowance. As a result of the present Amendment, Claims 9-30 remain in the case for continued prosecution.

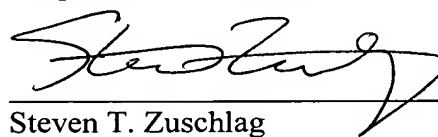
In the Office Action, the Examiner has indicated that Claims 9, 11 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for his indication of allowable subject matter.

In response, Applicants have canceled rejected Claims 1-8 and have rewritten Claims 9 and 11 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have further amended Claim 10 to depend from Claim 9 and have added new Claims 15-30, which all depend from allowable Claims 9 or 11. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 9 and 11, as amended, and the claims that depend therefrom are now in condition for allowance.

Application Serial No.: 10/663,334
Amdt. dated August 1, 2005
Reply to Office Action of May 13, 2005

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, favorable consideration and allowance of the application with Claims 9-30 are respectfully solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would assist in moving the application toward allowance, he is respectfully invited to contact the Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven T. Zuschlag
Registration No.: 43,309
Attorney for Applicants

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP
6900 Jericho Turnpike
Syosset, New York 11791
(516) 822-3550
STZ/mf

207666_1